

Office hours: Mon.-Fri., 7:00 AM-4:30 PM Sat., 9:00 AM-11:30 AM Sun., Closed

Adventures to Go... carefree travel for ages 50 plus

November 2012 Newsletter

Day Trips

The Lion King, November 1
Poinsettias, Cheese & Chocolate, November 29
Beach Blanket Babylon, December 9
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The Nutcracker, December 20
NEW! Anything Goes, January 9
NEW! CA Academy of Sciences, January 15
NEW! Jackson Rancheria Casino, January 30
NEW! Wicked, February 13

Overnight Trips

Reno Getaway, November 7-9
Optional: Reno Dinner & Show Package, November 8
Christmas at Hearst Castle, December 5-7

Trip descriptions are listed on the following pages.
Register early! Trips fill quickly. Waitlists available.
All trips are open to Santa Clara Residents and Non-Residents.

Let's Talk Travel!

Next meeting: November 28, 12:30 p.m.

Join us and *Let's Talk Travel!* We meet on the fourth Wednesday of each month at 12:30 p.m. in the Mezzanine. Come and learn more about upcoming tours, see travel presentations, or just to talk travel. Santa Clara residents can register for newly released tours following *Let's Talk Travel*. Call 1 (408) 615-3170 for more information.

Adventures to Go – General Information

Trip Availability: All trips are open to Santa Clara residents and non-residents, age 50 plus. Priority registration is given to residents for new trips released after *Let's Talk Travel* on the fourth Wednesday of the month; non-residents can register on the following Monday. Register early! Trips fill quickly! Wait lists are created once trips fill; those on the wait list are called as spaces become available. Trips not reaching the minimum enrollment required will be canceled.

Senior Center Registration Form: Travelers are required to complete a Senior Center registration form and sign a liability release each calendar year prior to participation in the *Adventures to Go* travel program.

Trip Attendance: Only those officially registered for a trip may attend. Participant substitutions are not allowed at time of check-in on day of trip. All travelers must register in advance at the Santa Clara Senior Center and have a current registration form on file.

Refund Policy:

- Day/Extended Trips Please choose wisely; refunds will ONLY be given when a
 replacement can be found from the Senior Center trip wait list or trip is cancelled by the
 Senior Center.
- **Travel Insurance** The Santa Clara Senior Center recommends you consider travel insurance, especially for extended trips. Check online at: http://www.insuremytrip.com/ or go to any other insurance provider of your choosing.

Trip/Meal Substitutions: Trip itineraries may be modified due to unforeseen circumstances. Every effort will be made to replace the location and/or activity with one that is similar. Refunds are not guaranteed should there be a change in itinerary. Hosted meals may be modified at the discretion of the restaurant.

Trip Activity Levels/Special Needs: Activity levels listed are offered as a guideline. Travelers with accessibility concerns, special needs, or questions should call the Senior Center office.

Trip Pick-Up/Drop-Off: Trips leave from and return to the old police station parking lot, near the corner of Lincoln Avenue and Civic Center Drive, in Santa Clara. Please arrive at least 15 minutes before trip departure for check-in. Motor coach will leave promptly at time specified. *Please note:* During a trip, if a situation (urgent or non-urgent) arises where you are unable to meet-up with your "travel group" at the pre-designated time and place identified by the tour escort(s), it will be your responsibility and expense to make arrangements to get yourself home. This would also apply to any other traveler who may decide to stay with you. A tour escort is not able to stay behind with you for any situation that may occur.

Gratuities: Trip fees include a modest gratuity for the driver of the motor coach and servers at hosted meals. When you experience exceptional service, you may choose to tip an additional amount. City of Santa Clara employees and tour escorts cannot accept gratuities.

AMERICANS WITH DISABILITIES ACT (ADA) – In accordance with the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990, the City of Santa Clara Parks and Recreation Department will ensure that all existing facilities will be made accessible to individuals with disabilities. Reasonable modifications in policies, procedures, and/or practices will be made as necessary to ensure full and equal access and enjoyment of all programs and activities for all individuals with a disability. In order to allow participation by individuals with severe allergies, environmental illnesses, multiple chemical sensitivity, or related disabilities, please **DO NOT wear scented products** to programs/activities at City facilities. Contact the Santa Clara Senior Center at (408) 615-3170 with accessibility concerns specific to this facility, and the Parks and Recreation office at (408) 615-2260 for accessibility concerns regarding other parks and recreation facilities/programs. For all other ADA questions, contact the City Clerk's office at 1 (408) 615-2220.

Adventures to Go – Trip Information

Trip availability can change from day to day. Contact the Senior Center office for registration information, 1 (408) 615-3170.

The Lion King No. 46934 Thursday, November 1 \$117 per person

Activity level: MEDIUM – approx. 1 hour drive; long period of sitting. Eat before arrival or bring a lunch to eat on the motor coach. No lunch or stop for lunch provided.

Experience the phenomenon of Disney's THE LION KING. Marvel at the breathtaking spectacle of animals brought to life by award-winning director, Julie Taymor. Thrill to the pulsating rhythms of Africa Pridelands and an unforgettable score including Elton John and Tim Rice's Oscarwinning song "Can You Feel The Love Tonight" and "Circle of Life." Let your imagination run wild at the Tony Award-winning Broadway sensation that has surpassed all others. "There is Simply Nothing Else Like It" – *The New York Times*. Now you can see it from orchestra seating at the Orpheum Theatre in San Francisco. *Motor coach leaves promptly at 12:00 PM and returns at approximately 7:00 PM*.

Reno Getaway No. 46935 Wednesday – Friday, November 7 – 9 Per person: \$193 double occupancy and \$238 single occupancy OPTIONAL:

- Reno Dinner & Show Package
 No. 46939
 Thursday, November 8
- \$47 per person

Activity level: MEDIUM - approx. 5 hour drive with a stop midway.

Enjoy round trip motor coach transportation provided by Royal Coach Tours and two nights deluxe accommodations at the Silver Legacy Hotel & Casino. We will make a stop mid-way for a no-host breakfast and will arrive in the Biggest Little City in the World at lunchtime. Upon arrival we will stop at the Nugget Casino where you'll receive a casino bonus of \$5 Cash & \$5 Food Credit. The \$10 total bonus may be used for your lunch while at the casino. We will check in at the Silver Legacy Hotel and Casino around 5:15 p.m. At that time you will receive a casino bonus of \$5 Cash and \$3 Food Credit. The remainder of the time in Reno is free to use as you wish. The trip fee includes deluxe motor coach transportation, gratuities, hotel accommodations and baggage handling. Meals are not included. Treat yourself to an evening of great dining and entertainment at the El Dorado Casino on November 8. This optional dinner and show package includes a grand buffet dinner with more meal choices than you can imagine and reserved seating for "Jersey Nights." The show celebrates the music of Frankie Valli and the Four Seasons and takes the audience on a nostalgic trip down memory lane. This spectacular production with singers, dancers and video projection, delivers first class musical arrangements, perfect harmonies, authentic costumes and all of the Four Seasons' greatest hits including: "Oh What a Night," "Sherry," "Walk Like a Man," "Dawn," "Rag Doll," "Bye Bye Baby," "Big Girls Don't Cry," "Can't Take My Eyes Off Of You" and more. Please note: you must register for this package at the Senior Center. Join us! Motor coach leaves promptly at 7:30 AM. on Wednesday and returns at approximately 4:00 PM on Friday.

Poinsettias, Cheese & Chocolate No. 46936 Thursday, November 29 \$83 per person

Activity level: MEDIUM – approx. 2 hour drive. Credit cards are not accepted at Duarte's Nursery.

We'll travel to Hughson, Hilmar, and Lathrop for a day of holiday shopping. Visit Duarte's Nursery for a tour and opportunity to purchase spectacular Poinsettia and Cyclamen plants to grace porches, hearths and to be given as gifts. Duarte's Nursery will be overflowing with crimson, pink, cream, seven different reds and now purple flowers creating a sea of brilliant color. Remember to bring cash or check, as credit cards are not accepted. Our visit to Hilmar Cheese will include a cheese making tour and hosted hot buffet holiday lunch. Afterwards there

will be plenty of time to shop for delicious gourmet foods, sweet treats, and gift items found in their country boutique. Next we'll visit the Ghirardelli Factory Outlet store. As you enter you'll be greeted with the wonderful aroma of chocolate and a free sample. The prices are honestly low and you'll find all the traditional favorites in individual packages as well as special holiday gift packs. You can treat yourself to a cup of Hot Chocolate laced with caramel or a scoop of your favorite ice cream before we head home. *Motor coach leaves promptly at 8:00 AM and returns at approximately 6:00 PM.*

Christmas at Hearst Castle No. 46937 Wednesday - Friday, December 5-7 Per person: \$426 double occupancy and \$506 single occupancy Total fee due at time of registration.

Activity level: MEDIUM/HIGH – there are many stairs and a lot of walking at Hearst Castle. Approx. 5 hour drive with a stop mid-way. A detailed itinerary will be mailed to travelers prior to the trip.

During the Holiday Season, Hearst Castle presents an opportunity for visitors to travel back in time and experience the Castle as it might have been in the 1920s or 1930s, complete with docents dressed in 1930's period costumes re-enacting a Christmas social event. The staff at Hearst Castle works hard to decorate the estate, creating a special atmosphere that is sure to get you in the holiday spirit. There are decorations in many of the rooms throughout the historic California Mansion including two 18-foot Christmas trees the Assembly Room. We will begin our trip in comfort on a Royal Coach luxury motor coach and stay in deluxe accommodations at the Cambria Pines Lodge. The lodge will provide a "welcome" hosted dinner on the first night and a fully cooked breakfast each morning. The lodge will feature beautiful holiday garden light displays and it's first annual European Christmas Market with gift items, ornaments, and holiday treats for purchase. On day two we will have a guided trolley tour of Point San Luis Lighthouse and Avila Beach and enjoy a hosted lunch at Apple Farm Restaurant and have time to shop in the boutique. There will be time to enjoy the Holiday in the Pines Hospitality Celebration...shop in quaint downtown Cambria with merchants and restaurants offering special discounts, festive treats, and live entertainment. Trip fee includes round-trip transportation, accommodations, baggage handling, gratuities, guided tours, a dinner and lunch, and two breakfasts, *Motor coach* leaves promptly at 9:30 AM on Wednesday and will return at 2:00 PM on Friday.

Beach Blanket Babylon No. 46938 Sunday, December 9 \$133 per person

Activity level: MEDIUM – approx. 1 hour drive; moderate walking. You must be able to walk one flight of stairs.

We're headed to San Francisco for a hosted luncheon at Capp's Corner. The meal begins with minestrone soup and green salad followed by an entree choice of Filet of Sole, Eggplant Parmigiana, Chicken Scaloppine, or Pork Tenderloin. The main course selection is served with pasta marinara and braised vegetables. Dessert is Spumoni Ice Cream. After lunch we'll enjoy a festive holiday performance of Beach Blanket Babylon, the longest running musical revue in theatre history. The delightfully entertaining musical spoof of pop culture featuring extravagant costumes and outrageously huge hats is a great way to usher in the holidays, and an excellent excuse to let loose and laugh. The holiday show features a chorus line of tap dancing Christmas trees, special parodies of traditional Christmas carols, and those GIGANTIC zany hats that have made the show so famous. Please note: there is no bar service for this show. *Motor coach leaves promptly at 10:30 AM and returns at approximately 5:00 PM*.

Beach Blanket Babylon II No. 46941 Sunday, December 9 \$124 per person

Activity level: MEDIUM – approx. 1 hour drive; moderate walking. You must be able to walk one flight of stairs.

Due to popular demand a second bus has been added for Beach Blanket Babylon. We will start our day with a hosted luncheon at Bocce Café. Lunch will include choice of Meat Lasagna, Chicken Marsala, or Ricotta and Spinach Ravioli, and salad, dessert, and coffee. Afterwards,

we'll enjoy a festive holiday performance of Beach Blanket Babylon, the longest running musical show in theatre history, from rear balcony seating. This delightfully entertaining musical spoof of pop culture featuring extravagant costumes and outrageously huge hats is a great way to usher in the holidays, and an excellent excuse to let loose and laugh. The holiday show features a chorus line of tap dancing Christmas trees, special parodies of traditional Christmas carols, and those GIGANTIC zany hats that have made the show so famous. Please note: there is no bar service for this show. *Motor coach leaves promptly at 10:30 AM and returns at approximately 5:00 PM.*

Day In Union Square No. 46952 Thursday, December 13 \$40 per person

Activity level: MEDIUM/HIGH – approx. 1 hour drive; long periods of walking and standing. Wear comfortable walking shoes and dress in layers. Bring your own shopping bags.

Feel the energy of the holiday season in San Francisco! You will be dropped off at Union Square, where you have 5 hours to do what you please. Enjoy a leisurely no-host breakfast or lunch at one of the many fine restaurants in the area, browse and shop for those perfect Christmas gifts, take in the beauty of the holiday decorations in the stores and on the streets. Please note: It is recommended that you bring your own shopping bags. There is a bag ban in San Francisco; retail establishments are now required to charge 10 cents per bag. *Motor coach leaves promptly at 8:30 AM and returns at approximately 5:00 PM.*

The Nutcracker No. 46953 Thursday, December 20 \$123 per person

Activity level: MEDIUM – approx. 1 hour drive; long period of sitting. Be prepared to walk to War Memorial Opera House, approximately 1 block from the restaurant.

Come celebrate the holiday season with us. We will begin our day with a hosted lunch at The Blue Muse Restaurant, a favorite spot for theatregoers in the area. Entrée choices include Baked King Salmon Encroute wrapped in puff pastry, Sonoma Chicken Breast sautéed with shitake mushroom and a smooth cream sauce, and Medallions of Pork Filet sautéed in a light port wine and a touch of crème fraiche. Each meal includes a salad, dessert, and coffee or tea. After lunch we will walk approximately 1 block to the War Memorial Opera House for a 2:00 p.m. performance of Tomasson's *Nutcracker*. Our orchestra seating will provide a great vantage point for us to feel the magic and wonder of SF Ballet's lavish production of this beloved ballet, set in San Francisco during the Pan Pacific Exhibition. *Motor coach leaves promptly at* 10:00 AM and returns at approximately 6:30 PM.

Anything Goes No. 47960 Wednesday, January 9 \$98 per person

Activity level: MEDIUM – approx. 1 hour drive; long period of sitting. Eat before arrival or bring a lunch to eat on the motor coach. No lunch or stop for lunch provided.

All aboard for this saucy and splendid production of Roundabout Theatre Company's ANYTHING GOES, winner of three 2011 Tony Awards® including Best Musical Revival and Choreography! One of the greatest musicals in theater history, Cole Porter's first-class musical comedy is sailing to the Golden Gate Theatre in San Francisco, starring critically acclaimed actress Rachel York as Reno Sweeney and directed and choreographed by Tony Award® winner Kathleen Marshall. When the S.S. American heads out to sea, etiquette and convention get tossed out the portholes as two unlikely pairs set off on the course to true love...proving that sometimes destiny needs a little help from a crew of singing sailors, an exotic disguise and some good old-fashioned blackmail. From your orchestra seating you will hear some of musical theatre's most memorable standards including "I Get A Kick Out of You," "You're the Top," and of course, "Anything Goes." *Motor coach leaves promptly at 12:00 PM and returns at approximately 7:00 PM.*

CA Academy of Sciences No. 47962 Tuesday, January 15 \$65 per person

Activity level: MEDIUM – approx. 1 hour drive; large amount of walking with some stairs; elevator available. Bring a lunch or money to purchase lunch.

Brace yourself for the new Earthquake Exhibit at the California Academy of Sciences – a "must see!" The exhibit will give you a glimpse of the 1906 quake's destructive power, explore how the Earth's surface is directly related to what is happening inside the planet and show how the Earth's crust has influenced the evolution and diversity of life on our planet. Sit back in the world's largest all-digital planetarium and excite your senses with a new, visually stunning show that journey's through the San Andreas fault, delves into the Earth's core and explores the seismic science of earthquakes throughout our world. The California Academy of Sciences, named one of the new "Wonders of the World" by Condé Naste Traveler, is the only place on earth where you can explore an aquarium, planetarium, and natural museum under one living roof. *Motor Coach leaves promptly at 8:30 AM and returns at approximately 4:30 PM.*

Jackson Rancheria Casino No. 47961 Wednesday, January 30 \$41 per person

Activity level: MEDIUM – approx. 2 1/2 drive; periods of walking, standing, and sitting. Let the games begin! There are 49 gaming tables, 9 poker tables featuring Texas Hold 'Em and over 1500 slot and video poker machines for your enjoyment at this casino in Jackson. Dining options include the buffet lunch at Raging River or an expanded menu at Uncle Bud's. For a quick snack there's the Café Express, offering hot dogs, salads, sweet treats, side dishes, and beverages. Casino bonus: \$15 slot play and \$5 food credit. Please note: bonuses subject to change without notice. Motor coach leaves promptly at 7:30 AM and returns at approximately 6:00 PM.

Wicked No. 47963 Wednesday, February 13 \$126 per person

Activity level: MEDIUM – approx. 1 hour drive; long period of sitting. Eat before arrival or bring a lunch to eat on the motor coach. No lunch or stop for lunch provided.

Back by "Popular Demand," WICKED is coming to the Orpheum Theatre in San Francisco. Winner of 35 major awards, including a Grammy and three Tony Awards®, WICKED is "Broadway's biggest blockbuster" says *The New York Times*. Long before that girl from Kansas arrives in Munchkinland, two girls meet in the land of Oz. One – born with emarald green skin – is smart, fiery and misunderstood. The other is beautiful, ambitious and very popular. From your orchestra seating, you will entertained as you watch the two grow up to become the Wicked Witch of the West and Glinda the Good Witch, the witches of Oz. *Motor coach leaves promptly at 12:00 PM and returns at approximately 7:00 PM*.

LOOK WHAT'S COMING IN 2013!

Day at the deYoung (Girl with the Pearl Earring and Rudolph Nureyev exhibits)
San Francisco Symphony Rehearsal
China's Terracotta Warriors
Ironstone Vineyards
Golden Gate Fields
San Francisco Giants
Santa Cruz Follies...and more

Look for trip details in upcoming issues of the Adventures To Go Newsletter.